

Bulletin No. 5 of 1931.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.Preliminary Report by the Government Statist on the Estimated Wool
Production, 1930-31.

I. NUMBER OF SHEEP. Statistics are now being collected as to the strength of flocks as at December 31st 1930 but pending the results of the actual count and in order to meet the demands of those interested for early particulars of the Wool industry, the Government Statist has made an estimate of the numbers based on fairly reliable details of lambing, slaughtering and interstate movement of sheep during the year. He estimates that there were in the State on or about December 31st, 1930, 5,500,000, a decrease of 700,000. This estimate is arrived at as follows :-

Actual Count, December 1929	6,186,252
Lambs marked year 1930 (Preliminary)	1,330,000
Net Imports, year 1930.	127,414
	<u>7,643,666</u>

LESS

Slaughterings Year 1930 (partly estimated)	1,320,000
Mortality Losses 1930 Estimated	<u>800,000</u>
	<u>2,120,000</u>

ESTIMATED TOTAL SHEEP AT DECEMBER 31ST 1930. 5,523,666SAY 5,500,000II. WOOL-CLIP.

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>1930-31</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>1929-30</u>
Sheep and Lambs Shorn	6,100,000	6,617,986
Wool-Clip in grease including crutchings (Sheep and Lambs) lbs.	53,000,000	56,083,898
Average weight fleece (Sheep and Lambs)	8.69	8.47

The previous year the State's Wool-Clip (1929-30) yielded from 6,617,986 sheep and lambs 56,083,898 lbs. averaging 8.47 lbs. The clip for 1930-31 now being marketed is estimated to yield 53,000,000 lbs. a decrease in the grease of 3,083,898 lbs. Less sheep were shorn but the weight of fleece weighed .22 lbs. more than the previous year.

III. INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF WOOL. Considerable quantities of Wool from New South Wales, Victoria and some from Western Australia are sent to Adelaide for sale and shipment and a good quantity of the South-Eastern clip is sent from this State to Victoria for sale and shipment. A monthly record is kept of this Interstate Trade and from these details the Net Imports for the season are estimated at 1,000,000 lbs. in the grease.

IV. GRAND TOTAL WOOL-CLIP FOR SALE AND SHIPMENT, SEASON 1930-31.

Adding the net Interstate Imports, 1,000,000 lbs. to the Wool-Clip of the State 53,000,000 lbs., a grand total of 54,000,000 lbs. in the grease is estimated as available for Adelaide sales and ultimate shipment or local use, exclusive of 850,000 lbs. of 1929-30 wool carried forward at 30th June. The details are set forth as follows:-

	lbs.
Estimated State Wool-Clip in the grease	53,000,000
Imported from States	11,000,000
Total	64,000,000
Less Exports to States	10,000,000
Grand Total Available Adelaide	54,000,000
Approximate Bales	167,000

V. EXPORTS. The seasonal exports (July 1930 to February 1931) of Wool to Oversea Countries was equivalent to 45,169,257 lbs. in grease in addition to the 10,000,000 lbs. sent to other States.

VI. VALUES. Allowing for the marked increase in values realised at the recent sales, the average value per lb. greasy for the season has been estimated at 6.90d. compared with 9.09d. in 1929-30, 14.97d. in 1928-29 and 17.36d. in 1927-28. It is thus estimated that the total clip of 53,000,000 lbs. in the grease will realise approximately £1,525,000 or £605,000 less than the clip for the previous year. In addition to this the wool on sheepskins exported and fellmongered must be taken into account. Last season this was estimated at £420,000 making a grand total value of £2,549,021 for 1929-30. £285,000 should be a safe estimate on this account for 1930-31. This gives an estimated total for the season 1930-31 of £1,810,000 against £2,549,021 for the season 1929-30 as the value of wool-clip, wool on skins, and fellmongered. The total value for 1928-29 was £4,654,172 and 1927-28 £5,668,757.

VII. SUMMARY OF STATE'S WOOL PRODUCTION IN THE GREASE.

Season ended June 30th	Aver. weight fleece lbs.	Wool Production and Value				Average per lb. greasy d.
		Shorn and Crutchings lbs.	On skins and Fellmongered lbs.	Grand Total lbs.	Estimated Value £	
1926	8.73	60,380,584	8,626,682	69,007,266	4,295,702	14.94
1927	8.67	63,078,242	9,286,758	72,365,000	4,468,551	14.82
1928	8.66	67,570,937	10,798,981	78,369,918	5,668,757	17.36
1929	8.79	63,729,419	10,886,585	74,616,004	4,654,172	14.97
1930	8.47	56,083,898	11,216,983	67,300,881	2,549,021	9.09
x1931	8.69	53,000,000	10,000,000	63,000,000	1,810,000	6.90

x 1930-31 is estimated, subject to final revision.

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ADELAIDE.

19th March, 1931.

GOVERNMENT STATIST & C.